

VIS

VI'RULENT. *adj.* [virulent, Fr. *virulentus*, Lat.]

1. Poisonous; venomous.
2. Poisoned in the mind; bitter; malignant.

VI'RULENTLY. *adv.* [from *virulent*.] Malignantly; with bitterness.

VI'SAGE. *n. f.* [*visage*, Fr. *visaggio*, Italian.] Face; countenance; look. It is now rarely used but with some ideas of dislike or horroir.

Phoebe doth behold
Her silver *visage* in the watry glass,
Decking with liquid pearl the bladed grass. *Shakesp.*
When she shall hear this of thee, with her nails
She'll beat thy wolfish *visage*. *Shakesp. K. Lear.*

Whereto serves mercy,
But to confront the *visage* of offence. *Shakesp. Hamlet.*
With hostile frown,
And *visage* all inflam'd, first thus began. *Milton.*

By the rout, that made the hideous roar,
His goaty *visage* down the stream was sent;
Down the swift Hebrus to the Lesbian shore. *Milton.*
Love and beauty still that *visage* grace;

Death cannot fright 'em from their wonted place. *Waller.*
To VI'SCERATE. *v. a.* [*viscera*, Latin.] To embowel; to enterate.

VI'SCID. *adj.* [*viscidus*, Latin.] Glutinous; tenacious.
VISCIDITY. *n. f.* [from *viscid*.] Glutinousness; tenacity; ropiness.

1. This motion in some human creatures may be weak, in respect to the *viscid* of what is taken, so as not to be able to propel it. *Arbutnot.*

2. Glutinous concretion.
Cachecticks of mercurials precipitate the *viscidities* by their styplicity. *Floyer.*

VISCOUS. *n. f.* [*viscosus*, Fr. from *viscum*.] Glutinousness; tenacity.

1. The air being mixed with the animal fluids, determines their condition as to rarity, density, *viscosity*, tenuity. *Arbutnot.*

2. A glutinous substance.
A tenuous emanation, or continued effluvia, after some distance, retracteth unto itself, as is observable in drops of syrups, and seminal *viscosities*. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*

VI'SCOUNT. *n. f.* [*vicecomes*, Lat.]
Viscount signifies as much as sheriff; between which two words there is no other difference, but that the one comes from our conquerors the Normans, and the other from our ancestors the Saxons. *Viscount* also signifies a degree of nobility next to an earl, which is an old name of office, but a new one of dignity, never heard of amongst us, till Henry VI. his days. *Covel.*

VI'SCOUNTESS. *n. f.* [from *viscount*.] *Viscount* and *viscountess* are pronounced *viscount* and *viscountess*.] The lady of a viscount; a peeress of the fourth order.

VI'SCOUS. *adj.* [*visqueux*, Fr. *viscosus*, Lat.] Glutinous; sticky; tenacious.

The cause of the scouring virtue of nitre is, that it hath a subtle spirit, which severeth and divideth any thing that is foul and *viscous*. *Bacon.*

Holly is of to *viscous* a juice as they make bird-line of the bark. *Bacon.*

VISIBILITY. *n. f.* [*visibilitas*, Fr. from *visibile*.]

1. The state or quality of being perceptible by the eye.
The colours of outward objects brought into a darkened room, do much depend for their *visibility*, upon the dimness of the light they are beheld by. *Boyle.*

2. State of being apparent, or openly discoverable; conspicuousness.

They produced this as an instance against the perpetual *visibility* of the church, and he brings it to prove that it ceased to be a true church. *Stillingfleet.*

In these, the *visibility* and example of our virtues will chiefly consist. *Rogers's Sermons.*

VISIBLE. *n. f.* [*visibile*, Fr. *visibilis*, Lat.]

1. Perceptible by the eye.
Visibles work upon a looking-glass, which is like the pupil of the eye; and audibles upon the places of echo, which resemble the cavern of the ear. *Bacon.*

On this mount he appeared; under this tree
Stood *visible*;
Here with him at this fountain talk'd. *Milton.*

Each thought was *visible*, that roll'd within,
As through a crystal ale the figur'd hours are seen. *Dryden.*
A long series of ancestors shews the native lustre with great advantage; but if he degenerate from his line, the least spot is *visible* on ermine. *Dryden.*

2. Discovered to the eye.
If that the heavens do not their *visible* spirits
Send quickly down to tame the vile offences,
Humanity must perforce prey on itself,
Like monsters of the deep. *Shakesp. K. Lear.*

3. Apparent; open; conspicuous.
The factions at court were greater, or more *visible* than before. *Clarendon.*

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VI'SIBLENES. *n. f.* [from *visibile*.] State or quality of being visible.

VI'SIBLY. *adv.* [from *visibile*.] In a manner perceptible by the eye.

The day being *visibly* governed by the sun, is a little longer than the revolution of the equator; so much as is occasioned by the advance of the sun in his annual contrary motion along the ecliptick.

By the head we make known more *visibly* our supplications, our threatnings; enough to see the face, and to understand the mind at half a word. *Holder.*

VISION. *n. f.* [*visio*, Fr. *visio*, Latin.]

1. Sight; the faculty of seeing.
Anatomists, when they have taken off from the bottom of the eye that outward and most thick coat called the dura mater, can then see through the thinner coats, the pictures of objects lively painted thereon. And these pictures, propagated by motion along the fibres of the optic nerves into the brain, are the cause of *vision*. *Newton's Opticks.*

These theorems being admitted into optics, there would be scope enough of handling that science voluminously, after a new manner; not only by teaching those things which tend to the perfection of *vision*, but also by determining mathematically all kinds of phenomena of colours which could be produced by refractions. *Newton's Opticks.*

2. The act of seeing.
Vision in the next life is the perfecting of faith in this; or faith here is turned into *vision* there, as hope into enjoying. *Hammond's Pract. Catechism.*

3. A supernatural appearance; a spectre; a phantom.
The day seems long, but night is odious;
No sleep, but dreams; no dreams, but *visions* strange. *Sidney.*
Last night the very gods they'd me a *vision*. *Shakesp.*
God's mother deigned to appear to me;
And, in a *vision*, full of majesty,
Will'd me to leave my base vocation. *Shakesp. Hen. VI.*

To call by *vision*, from his father's house,
Into a land which he will show him. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

4. A dream; something thrown in a dream. A dream happens to a sleeping; a *vision* may happen to a waking man. A dream is supposed natural, a *vision* miraculous; but they are confounded.

His dream returns; his friend appears again;
The murders come; now help, or I am slain!
'Twas but a *vision* still, and *visions* are but vain. *Dryden.*
The idea of any thing in our mind, no more proves the existence of that thing, than the *visions* of a dream make a true history. *Locke.*

VI'SIONARY. *adj.* [*visionnaire*, Fr. from *visio*.]

1. Affected by phantoms; disposed to receive impressions on the imagination.
No more these scenes my meditation aid,
Or full to rest the *visionary* maid. *Pope's Essay to Criticism.*

2. Imaginary; not real; seen in a dream; perceived by the imagination only.
The hounds at nearer distance hoarsely bray'd;
The hunter close pursu'd the *visionary* maid. *Dryden.*
If you have any skill in dreams, let me know whether I have the same place in the real heart, that I had in the *visionary* one. *Addison.*

Our victories only led us to further *visionary* prospects; advantage was taken of the sanguine temper which success had wrought the nation up to. *Swift.*

VI'SIONARY. *n. f.* [*visionnaire*, Fr.] One whose imagination is *visionary*. *Swift.*

The lovely *visionary* gave him perpetual uneasiness. *Fem. Quix.*
To VI'SIT. *v. a.* [*visito*, Fr. *visita*, Lat.]

1. To go to see.
You must go *visit* the lady that lies in. — I *visit* her with my prayers; but I cannot go thither. *Shakesp. Coriolanus.*

2. [In scriptural language.] To send good or evil judicially.
When God *visiteth*, what shall I answer him? *Job xxxi. 14.*
Thou shalt be *visited* of the Lord with thunder. *Isa. xxix. 6.*
When I *visit*, I will *visit* their sin upon them. *Ex. xxxii. 34.*
God *visit* thee in good things. *Judith xiii. 20.*
That venerable body is in little concern after what manner their mortal enemies intend to treat them, whenever God shall *visit* us with so fatal an event. *Swift.*

3. To salute with a present.
Samson *visited* his wife with a kid. *Judges xv. 1.*

4. To come to a survey, with judicial authority.
The bishop ought to *visit* his diocese every year in person. *Addison.*

To VI'SIT. *v. n.* To keep up the intercourse of ceremonial salutations at the houses of each other.

VI'SIT. *n. f.* [*visita*, Fr. from the verb.] The act of going to see another.

In a designed or accidental *visit*, let some one take a book, which may be agreeable, and read in it. *Waller.*

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VI'SITABLE. *adj.* [from *visita*.] Liable to be visited.

All hospitals built since the reformation, are *visitabile* by the king or lord chancellor. *Addison's Paragon.*

VI'SITANT. *n. f.* [from *visita*.] One who goes to see another.

He alone
To find where Adam shelter'd, took his way,
Not unperceiv'd of Adam, who to Eve,
While the great *visitant* approach'd, thus spake. *Milton.*

One *visit* begins an acquaintance; and when the *visitant* comes again, he is no more a stranger. *South.*

Edward the first, who had been a *visitant* in Spain, upon action in the holy land, fixed both our pounds by the measures of the East. *Arbutnot on Coins.*

Griev'd that a *visitant* so long should wait
Unmark'd, unhonour'd, at a monarch's gate,
Instant he flew. *Pope's Odyssey. b. i. l. 160.*

VI'SITATION. *n. f.* [*visita*, Latin.]

1. The act of visiting.
He comes not
Like to his father's greatness; his approach,
So out of circumstance and sudden, tells us,
'Tis not a *visitation* fram'd, but forc'd. *Shakesp. Winter Tale.*

By need and accident.
What would you with the princeps? —
— Nothing but peace and gentle *visitation*. *Shakesp. Measure for Measure.*

2. Object of visits.
O slow'rs,
My early *visitation*, and my last. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

3. [*Visitation*, Fr.] Judicial visit or perambulation.
The bishop ought to visit his diocese every year in person, unless he omits the same because he would not burthen his churches; and then ought to send his arch-deacon, which was the original of the arch-deacon's *visitation*. *Addison.*

4. Judicial visit by God; state of suffering judicial evil.
That which thou dost not understand when thou readest, thou shalt understand in the day of thy *visitation*. For many secrets of religion are not perceived till they be felt, and are not felt but in the day of a great calamity. *Taylor.*

5. Communication of divine love.
The most comfortable *visitations* God hath sent men from above, have taken especially the times of prayer as their most natural opportunities. *Hooker.*

VI'SITATORIAL. *adj.* [from *visitor*.] Belonging to a judicial visitor.

Some will have it, that an archdeacon does of common right execute this *visitatorial* power in his archdeaconry; but others say that an archdeacon has a *visitatorial* power only of common right per *modum simplicis jurisdictionis*, as being bishop's vicar. *Addison's Paragon.*

VI'SITER. *n. f.* [from *visita*.]

1. One who comes to see another.
Here's ado to look up honestly and honour from the access of gentle *visitors*. *Shakesp. Measure for Measure.*

You see this confluence, this great flood of *visitors*. *Shakesp. Measure for Measure.*
Consumptives of this degree entertain their *visitors* with strange rambling discourses of their intent of going here and there. *Harvey.*

I have a large house, yet I should hardly prevail to find one *visitor*, if I were not able to hire him with a bottle of wine. *Swift to Gay.*

2. [*Visiteur*, Fr.] An occasional judge; one who regulates the disorders of any society.
The *visitors* expell'd the orthodox; they, without scruple or shame, possess'd themselves of their colleges. *Waller.*

To him you must your sickly state refer;
Your charter claims him as your *visitor*. *Garth.*
Whatever abuses have crept into the universities, might be reformed by strict injunctions to the *visitors* and heads of houses. *Swift's Project for the Advancement of Religion.*

VI'SNOMY. *n. f.* [corrupted from *physiognomy*.] Face; countenance. Not in use.

Twelve gods do sit around in royal state,
And Jove in midst with awful majesty,
To judge the strife between them thir'd late;
Each of the gods by his like *visnomy*
Eath to be known, but Jove above them all,
By his great looks and pow'r imperial. *Spenser.*

VI'SIVE. *adj.* [*visivus*, Fr. *visus*, Lat.] Formed in the act of seeing.

This happens when the axis of the *visive* cones, diffused from the object, fall not upon the same plane; but that which is conveyed into one eye is more depressed or elevated than that which enters the other. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*

VI'SOR. *n. f.* [This word is variously written *visard*, *visar*, *visor*, *visard*, *visor*. I prefer *visor*, as nearest the Latin *visor*, and concurring with *visage*, a kindred word; *visiere*, French.] A mask used to disguise and disguise.

I fear, indeed, the weakness of my government before, made you think such a mask would be grateful unto me; and my weaker government since, makes you pull off the *visor*. *Sidney.*

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This loutish clown is such that you never saw so ill-favoured a *visor*; his behaviour such, that he is beyond the degree of ridiculous. *Sidney.*

By which deceit doth mask in *visor* fair,
And cast her colours dyed deep in grain,
To seem like truth, whose shape she well can fain. *Spenser.*

But that thy face is, *visor*-like, unchanging,
Made impudent with use of evil deeds,
I wou'd essay, proud queen, to make thee blush. *Shakesp.*

One *visor* remains,
And that is Claudio; I know him by his bearing. *Shakesp.*
The Cyclops, a people of Sicily, remarkable for cruelty, might, perhaps, in their wars use a head-piece, or *visor*. *Brown's Odyssey. Notes.*

VI'SORED. *v. n.* [from *visor*.] Masked.
Hence with thy brew'd enchantments, foul deceiver!
Hast thou betray'd my credulous innocence
With *visor*'d falsehood, and base forgery. *Milton.*

VI'STOR. *n. f.* [Italian.] View; prospect through an avenue.
In St. Peter's, when a man stands under the dome, if he looks upwards, he is astonished at the spacious hollow of the cupola, that makes one of the beautifullest *visits* that the eye can pass through. *Addison's Remarks on Italy.*

The fifth'd garden to the view
Its *visits* opens, and its alleys green. *Thomson's Spring.*

VI'SUAL. *adj.* [*visuel*, French.] Used in sight; exercising the power of sight; instrumental to sight.
An eye thrust forth so as it hangs a pretty distance by the *visual* nerve, hath been without any power of sight; and yet, after being replaced, recovered sight. *Bacon's Nat. Hist.*

The air,
No where so clear, sharpen'd his *visual* ray
To objects distant far. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

Then purg'd with euphrasy and rue
The *visual* nerve; for he had much to see. *Milton.*

Inward lights alas,
Puts forth no *visual* beam! *Milton's Agonistes.*

VITAL. *adj.* [*vitalis*, Latin.]

1. Contributing to life; necessary to life.
His heart, broken with unkindness and affliction, stretched so far beyond his limits with this excess of comfort, as it was able no longer to keep safe his *vital* spirits. *Sidney.*

All nature laughs, the groves are fresh and fair;
The sun's mild lustre warms the *vital* air. *Pope.*

2. Relating to life.
Let not Bardolph's *vital* thread be cut
With edge of penny cord, and vile reproach. *Shakesp. Henry IV.*

On the rock a scanty measure place
Of *vital* flax, and turn the wheel a-pace. *Dryden.*

3. Containing life.
Spirits that live throughout;
Vital in every part; not as frail man,
In intrails, heart, or head, liver, or reins,
Cannot but by annihilating die. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

On the watry calm,
His brooding wings the spirit of God outspreads;
And *vital* virtue infus'd, and *vital* warmth
Throughout the fluid mass. *Milton's Par. Lost.*

4. Being the seat of life.
The dart flew on, and pierc'd a *vital* part. *Pope.*

5. So disposed as to live. Little used, and rather Latin than English.
Pythagoras and Hippocrates not only affirm the birth of the seventh month to be *vital*, that of the eighth mortal; but the progression thereto to be measured by rule. *Brown.*

6. Essential; chiefly necessary.
Know grief's *vital* part
Consists in nature, not in art. *Bp. Corbet.*

VITALITY. *n. f.* [from *vital*.] Power of subsisting in life.
Whether that motion, *vitality* and operation were by incubation, or how else, the manner is only known to God. *Rablight's Hist. of the World.*

For the security of species produced only by seed, providence hath endued all seed with a lasting *vitality*, that if by any accident it happen not to germinate the first year, it will continue its fecundity twenty or thirty years. *Roy.*

VITALLY. *adv.* [from *vital*.] In such a manner as to give life.

The organical structure of human bodies, whereby they are fitted to live and move, and be *vitally* informed by the soul, is the workmanship of a most wise, powerful, and beneficent maker. *Bentley.*

VITALS. *n. f.* [Without the singular.] Parts essential to life.
By fits my swelling grief appears,
In rising sighs, and falling tears,
That show too well the warm desires,
The silent, slow, consuming fires,
Which on my inmost *vitals* prey,
And melt my very soul away. *Phillips.*

VITELLARY. *n. f.* [from *vitellus*, Latin.] The place where the yolk of the egg swims in the white.

A greater